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28 November 1962  
2330 Hours

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

PRELIMINARY SITUATION REPORT NO 27

Two BRASS KNOB missions, [REDACTED] Preliminary analysis of the aerial photography from these missions reveals the following items of interest:

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1. SAN JULIAN AIRFIELD

Seven BEAGLE/MASCOT remain -- 4 complete, one with wings but no tail assembly and two fuselages with probable fuselage crates directly behind them. Thirteen fuselage crates present along parking aprons and taxiways. No change observed in AAA defenses.

A total of 13 BEAGLE/MASCOT and 20 fuselage crates were reported present on [REDACTED]

2. HOLGUIN AIRFIELD

No BEAGLE fuselage crates observed but several smaller crates remain. Ten FAGOT/FRESCO and one liaison aircraft present. No change noted in airfield defenses since [REDACTED]

3. CARDENAS PORT

Only small craft present. No military equipment observed.

4. CASILDA PORT

One large freighter is observed with 8 probable canvas-covered oxidizer trailers on deck. Five oxidizer trailers are on the pier and one probable oxidizer trailer is in Casilda and moving toward the pier.

5. CIENFUEGOS PORT

Two tankers, one freighter, two PT boats, one probable PT boat and numerous small craft are present. Six unidentified pieces of equipment are adjacent to one of the large vessels. The AAA position at Punta Caoba is not occupied.

6. HAVANA PORT

Vessels include 38 freighters, one passenger ship, one tanker, one patrol frigate, one patrol craft and numerous small craft. No apparent change noted in facilities or concentration of vehicles since [REDACTED]

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7. LA ISABELA PORT

Five barges, 4 small coastal freighters and numerous small craft observed. No defenses or military activity noted.

8. MARIEL PORT

Vessels include one freighter at La Boca Pier and 2 freighters with open hatches at Mariel City Pier. In the harbor are 7 KOMAR-Class PGMG, one grain carrier, 4 PT boats and 3 or 4 Patrol Frigates.

Equipment observed at La Boca on Mission [REDACTED] includes 8 missile erectors, 3 vans and 8 miscellaneous vehicles. At Mariel City Pier [REDACTED] are 4 fuel trucks, 15 fuel trailers, and 28 oxidizer trailers.

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At La Boca on the first pass of Mission [REDACTED] 12 missile erectors were present, but only 7 were present on the second pass. Five missile erectors were visible at Mariel City Pier on the second pass.

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9. MATANZAS PORT

Two tankers and one coastal tanker or freighter present. The freighter reported present [REDACTED] has departed. Two cranes and 7 unidentified objects, possibly crates, observed on the wharf. No activity observed on the access routes.

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10. SANTIAGO DE CUBA PORT

Three large freighters, 2 tankers and numerous small craft sighted. No military equipment seen being loaded or unloaded. No apparent changes noted in facilities since [REDACTED]

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11. CAIBARIEN PORT

The 4 concrete arches reported [REDACTED] were not observed. No other apparent changes since [REDACTED]

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12. ARTEMISA AREA, MILITARY CAMP

Approximately 122 vehicles are parked throughout the camp. Thirteen buildings appear complete. An unidentified activity noted in a wooded area 4.5 NM NE of Artemisa Military Camp. No other apparent change noted since [REDACTED]

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13. SANTIAGO DE LAS VEGAS AREA, MILITARY CAMP

At least 11 tanks, 22 canvas-covered probable tanks, 2 self-propelled guns, and 8 canvas-covered probable self-propelled guns observed. Also visible are 10 probable FROG missile transporters and at least 33 other vehicles.

14. CASILDA, MISSILE EQUIPMENT AREA

Seventeen oxidizer trailers, approximately 12 cargo trucks and several miscellaneous vehicles observed. Also present are one small and 8 large tents.

15. HOLGUIN AREA, MILITARY CAMP

No apparent change noted since [REDACTED]

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16. MAYARI ARRIBA, MILITARY INSTALLATION

Some canvas-covered equipment, possibly missile-related, is located in the woods throughout the area.

17. REMEDIOS AREA, MILITARY CAMP

Equipment includes 42 canvas-covered tanks/FROG rocket launchers/SP guns, 6 probable missile transporters and about 200 trucks or vans. Of the 12 barracks, one is complete, one is nearly complete and the remainder are in an early stage of construction. Five small tents and 5 vans, possibly the beginning of an electronics facility, are NE of the main camp but still within the security fence.

18. LAS VILLAS AREA OF SPECIAL INTEREST

No apparent change observed since [REDACTED]

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STATUS OF MISSION READOUT

PI readout of Mission [REDACTED] is complete. Immediate photographic reports (IPIRs) on these missions are being published as NPIC/R-1116 and NPIC/R-1117/62.

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